



# Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2007  
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## **FIVE MEN PLEAD GUILTY TO CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BANK FRAUD**

### ***– Made and Uttered over \$30,000 in Counterfeit and Forged Checks***

LOUISVILLE, KY - Anthony Willis Simmons, age 30; James Lee Cooper, age 32; Kenneth J. Moore, age 36; Jesse DeWayne Howard, age 43; and Tekulve Walker, age 27; all of Bowling Green, Kentucky, in Warren County, pled guilty to one count of Conspiracy to Commit Bank Fraud, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today.

Simmons, Cooper, Moore, Howard, and Walker admitted that, between March 4, 2005 and January 23, 2007, they had conspired together and with other individuals to commit bank fraud, by reaching an agreement to make counterfeit and forged payroll and personal checks and then to utter the checks to Kentucky banks and businesses in return for over \$30,000 in money and merchandise.

The maximum potential penalties are 30 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 5 years. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Ann Claire Phillips, and it was investigated by the United States Secret Service and the Bowling Green Police Department.

The pleas were entered before Joseph H. McKinley, Jr. Judge, United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Simmons, Cooper, Moore, Howard, and Walker are scheduled to be sentenced before

Judge McKinley on September 20, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

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